

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VIENNA 02002 01 OF 02 131252 Z

44

ACTION MBFR-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 CIAE-00 PM-09 INR-09 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 GAC-01 USIA-12 SAJ-01

DODE-00 H-02 NSC-10 SS-14 OIC-04 T-03 AEC-11 ACDA-19

INRE-00 OMB-01 IO-12 RSR-01 ADP-00 AECE-00 /156 W

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P 131158 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8018

INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

MBFR CAPITALS PRIORITY 224

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

USLOSACLANT PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

USDEL SALT TWO

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 VIENNA 2002

DISTO

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: MBFR: AD HOC GROUP MEETING: AFTERNOON 12 MARCH 1973

FROM US REP MBFR

SUMMARY. AFTERNOON SESSION FEATURED DISCUSSIONS OF FURTHER BI-LATERALS WITH EASTERN COUNTERPARTS, ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION OF TALKING POINTS AND PRESS GUIDANCE. GROUP AGREED THAT US AND NETHERLANDS REPS WOULD APPROACH SOVIET AND HUNGARIAN REPS AT 10:30 HOURS ON MORNING OF 13 MARCH TO PROBE EASTERN VIEWS IN ACCORDANCE WITH NAC INSTRUCTIONS AND AGREED TALKING POINTS. ED SUMMARY.

1. TIMING OF WESTERN PROBE. AFTER BREAK, AD HOC GROUP RECONVENED AT 15:30 HOURS. BELGIAN REP REPORTED THAT HE HAD LEARNED FROM
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PAGE 02 VIENNA 02002 01 OF 02 131252 Z

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH BRUSSELS THAT COUNCIL HAD APPROVED AMERICAN PAPER WITHOUT RESERVATION. CANADIAN REP REPORTED THAT HUNGARIAN VICE PREMIER AND FOREIGN MINISTER WERE IN OTTAWA TODAY, AND ASKED IF GROUP COULD PERMIT HIM TO HAVE CANADIAN FOREIGN MINISTER USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO INFORM HUNGARIANS OF THE FORTHCOMING ALLIED INITIATIVE. US REP REMARKED THAT THIS WAS AN UNUSUAL OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE AN AUTHORITATIVE PRESENTATION OF ALLIED VIEWS, BUT HE QUESTIONED WHETHER WE COULD REALLY TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT, GIVEN TIME FACTORS. CANADIAN REP REPLIED THAT SUBSTANCE WILL BE DISCUSSED ON 12 MARCH ONLY AND THOUGHT THAT HIS FOREIGN MINISTER COULD BE ADVISED TO EXPLAIN THAT THERE WOULD BE WESTERN INITIATIVE, WHILE AVOIDING DEBATE. NETHERLANDS REP THOUGHT THAT IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR CANADIAN GOVERNMENT TO REVEAL FACT OF NEW WESTERN INITIATIVE BEFORE APPROACH TO EAST MADE IN VIENNA. DANISH REP AGREED. TURKISH REP POINTED TO LUNCHEON WITH KHLESTOV FROM WHICH HE HAD JUST COME WHERE LATTER HAD ASKED WHEN EASTERN AND WESTERN SPOKESMEN WOULD MEET AGAIN.

2. UK REP THOUGHT CANADIAN FOREIGN MINISTER SHOULD NOT ADVANCE AD HOC GROUP CONCEPT WHEREBY PARTICIPATION OF HUNGARY IN FUTURE DECISIONS WOULD BE RESOLVED IN LATER STAGE. HE ALSO CAUTIONED AGAINST ALLIES SHOWING UNDUE HASTE BY RUSHING TO COMMUNICATE NEW CONCEPTS TO THE EAST ON MARCH 12. IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR ALLIED SPOKESMEN TO MEET WITH THEIR EASTERN COUNTERPARTS MARCH 13. CANADIAN FOREIGN MINISTER, UK REP ADDED, MIGHT SAY THAT FURTHER ATTEMPTS TO REACH AGREEMENT WOULD BE MADE BY THE WEST AND THAT WEST WOULD HOPE THE EAST WOULD DO THE SAME. GROUP EXPRESSED GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH UK REP ON THIS POINT.

3. FURTHER BILATERALS: DISCUSSION THEN TURNED TO BRIEF SUMMARIES OF BILATERAL CONTACTS WITH EASTERN REPS BY MEMBERS OF THE GROUP SINCE THE MORNING MEETING. FRG REP REPORTED THAT HIS CZECH COUNTERPART (LAHODA) HAD CONVEYED IMPRESSION OF AWAITING NEW WESTERN INITIATIVE. LAHODA HAD ALSO SUGGESTED HE EXPECTED A PLENARY DURING WEEK OF 12-16 MARCH AND THAT HE WAS EXPECTING FURTHER EXCHANGES WITH HIS CANADIAN COUNTERPART. LAHODA ALSO EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE MULTILATERALIZATION OF THE TALKS, PRAISING PLENARY COCKTAILS INITIALLY HELD. CANADIAN REP SAID THAT CZECHS HAD REPEATED THEIR FAMILIAR ARGUMENTS ON HUNGARIAN ISSUE AND HAD AGAIN RETURNED TO IDEA THAT ALL 19 PARTICIPATE EQUALLY.

4. UK REP REPORTED ON HIS LUNCHEON WITH TIMERBAYEV IN WHICH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 VIENNA 02002 01 OF 02 131252 Z

LATTER REPEATEDLY ATTEMPTED TO ENGAGE HIM IN DISCUSSION OF

" ALL 19" FORMULA WHICH HE SAID HE RESISTED. LONG DISCUSSION TERMIN-
OLGY, I. E. PROCEDURAL AND SUBSTANTIVE SOLUTIONS TO THE HUNGARIAN
ISSUE, REVEALED THAT TIMERBAYEV WAS SEEKING TO ARRIVE A A NOT
OTHERWISE SPECIFIED PROCEDURAL SOLUTION TO THE SUBSTANTIVE PROBLEM
POSED BY THE HUNGARIAN ISSUE.

5. TURKISH REP REPORTED ON LUNCHEON WITH KHLESTOV IN WHICH HE
HAD IMPRESSION THAT SOVIET PERCEPTION OF HUNGARY IN ABEYANCE
IDEA, OF WHICH HE SEEMED TO BE AWARE, DID NOT MEAN THAT HUNGARY
COULD JOIN NEGOTIATIONS AT A LATER DATE. KHLESTOV ALSO PROPOSED
THAT HUNGARY BE MADE PERMANENT CHAIRMAN BUT RETAIN CONSULATATIVE
STATUS. UK REP THOUGHT KHLESTOV WAS TRYING TO ELICIT WESTERN
VIEWS ON CONSTRAINTS AND FORCE REDUCTIONS. HE ADDED THAT IN
COURSE OF DISCUSSION ABOUT EXPECTED INCREASE OF HOTEL RATES
ON 1 APRIL, HE GAVE TIMERBAYEV PERSONAL VIEW THAT THERE MAY
BE A RECESS IN THE TALKS FOR TWO WEEKS AROUND EASTER, WITH
DELEGATIONS RETURNING IN LATE APRIL OR EARLY MAY. US REP
EXPRESSED HOPE THAT PERSONAL CHARACTER OF THIS SUGGESTION HAD
BEEN EMPHASIZED.

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 02002 02 OF 02 131300 Z

42

ACTION MBFR-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-09 INR-09 L-03

NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 GAC-01 USIA-12

SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-02 NSC-10 SS-14 OIC-04 T-03 AEC-11

ACDA-19 INRE-00 OMB-01 RSR-01 AECE-00 /156 W

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P 131158 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8019

SECDEF/ WASHDC PRIORITY

MBFR CAPITALS PRIORITY 225

USNMR/ SHAPE PRIORITY

USLOSACLANT PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

USDEL SALT TWO II PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 VIENNA 2002

6. FURTHER DISCUSSION OF TALKING POINTS: GROUP THEN CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS FOR USE WITH EAST, CENTERING AROUND SEQUENCE IN WHICH POINTS SHOULD BE DEALT WITH RATHER THAN WHETHER THEY SHOULD BE PRESENTED AT ALL. TURKISH, ITALIAN AND UK REPS WONDERED WHETHER POINTS IN PARA J OF SYG INSTRUCTIONS SHOULD BE CONVEYED SEPARATELY, OR PERHAPS RECAST. US REP POINTED OUT THAT INSTRUCTIONS SPECIFIED THAT SENSE OF PARA J BE CONVEYED. GROUP AGREED THAT FORMULATION OF PARA J IDEAS IN TALKING POINTS WAS BEST FOR NOW. GROUP AGREED THAT US AND NETHERLANDS REPS WOULD APPROACH SOVIET AND HUNGARIAN REPS AT 1030 HOURS ON MORNING OF 13 MARCH TO PROBE EASTERN VIEWS IN ACCORDANCE WITH NAC INSTRUCTIONS.

7. US REP EXPRESSED THE DESIRE TO HAVE MORE DISCUSSION OF THE FORMULATION IN PARA J TO BE USED IN APPROACHING THE EAST. HE FELT THAT IT WAS THE INTENT OF THE NAC THAT AGREEMENT ON PROCEDURES PLUS ARRANGEMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION BE CARRIED OVER TO THE ACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS, DURING WHICH, IF ALLIED POSITION SUCCESSFUL, DEGREE OF INCLUSION OF HUNGARY WOULD BE DECIDED ON.

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PAGE 02 VIENNA 02002 02 OF 02 131300 Z

8. TURKISH REP SAID THAT THE WEST DID NOT WANT TO FALL AGAIN INTO ANOTHER DEADLOCK, NOR TO EVOKE EVEN LESS ACCEPTABLE RESPONSE THAN BEFORE, FROM THE OTHER SIDE. KHLESTOV, HE REMARKED, HAD SAID THAT SOVIETS WERE STILL THINKING ABOUT INCLUDING YUGOSLAVIA AND FRANCE. THEREFORE WHY SHOULD WEST ADVANCE IDEAS SUCH AS PARA J WHICH IN HIS MIND COULD BRING UP THE QUESTION OF NEUTRAL PARTICIPATION AND HAVE THAT QUESTION EXTENDED TO THE ACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS. ALLIES, HE SAID, WOULD THEN RUN THE RISK OF HAVING AN ENDLESS DISCUSSION OF THE PARTICIPATION ISSUE. GREEK REP SAID THAT IT WOULD BE IDEAL FOR THE WEST IF AGREEMENT COULD BE REACHED THAT ARRANGEMENTS ON PARTICIPATION WILL BE CARRIED OVER TO THE NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT THE ONLY ISSUE HERE WOULD BE HUNGARY. HE DOUBTED THAT EAST WOULD AGREE TO SUCH ARRANGEMENTS. WEST WAS THEREFORE CONFRONTED WITH CHOICE OF DROPPING CARRY-OVER PROVISIONS OR REVISING THE WHOLE PACKAGE. IN HIS VIEW, DROPPING THE CARRY-OVER PROVISIONS SUGGESTED IN PARA J WOULD BE BEST. DISCUSSION ENDED WITH AGREEMENT ON POINT MADE BY US REP ABOVE.

9. PRESS STATEMENTS. ITALIAN REP NOTED THAT MEETING BETWEEN EAST AND WEST SPOKESMEN COULD HARDLY BE KEPT FROM PUBLIC EYE AND THAT SOME REFERENCE TO CONTINUING DIALOGUE WOULD BE REQUIRED. US REP SUPPORTED BY UK REP SUGGESTED THAT STATEMENTS INDICATE THAT GROUP HAD RECEIVED MESSAGE FROM BRUSSELS AND THAT EXCHANGES BETWEEN EASTERN AND WESTERN SPOKESMEN WOULD TAKE PLACE IN THE NEAR FUTURE. AFTER BRIEF DISCUSSION GROUP AGREED THAT STATEMENT WOULD BE PUT OUT BY WESTERN SPOKESMEN AND WOULD BE THE BASIS FOR DEALING WITH INDIVIDUAL PRESS INQUIRIES.

10. CANADIAN FOREIGN MINISTER' S MEETING WITH HUNGARIANS. CANADI-
AN REP REPORTED THAT CANADIAN FOREIGN MINISTER HAD NOW MET WITH
HUNGARIAN VICE PREMIER AND THAT NO DETAILS ABOUT WESTERN INITIA-
TIVE HAD BEEN DISCUSSED. CANADIAN FOREIGN MINISTER EXPRESSED HOPE
THAT HUNGARY WOULD HELP IN THE EFFORT TO REACH A SOLUTION.

11. NEXT MEETING OF THE AD HOC GROUP WAS SCHEDULED FOR 1600 HRS
13 MARCH. HUMES

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